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DEPARTMENT OF STATE  
BUREAU OF  
INTER-AMERICAN AFFAIRS  
FEB 28 1967

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Rpt: Santo Domingo  
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FROM : Amembassy MADRID

DATE: February 25, 1967

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SUBJECT : NEWSPAPER INTERVIEW WITH JUAN BOSCH.

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An interview with Juan Bosch appeared in Arriba (Falangista) on February 16. While much of it was devoted to his Spanish ancestry and his life in Madrid, he also commented on several matters of substance.

Bosch said that his principal activity is writing "an agrarian thesis for the PRD." He added that the first part, "which covers the history of agrarian property in the Dominican Republic," will soon be finished. Bosch made the following comments on the current agrarian situation in the Dominican Republic: 30,000 of the country's 50,000 square kilometers are agriculturally usable; more than half of this land is owned by about 1,000 large landholders (latifundistas); in contrast to this handful of latifundistas, there are about 100,000 small landholders (minifundistas), mainly concentrated in the central area of the Cibao Valley.

Speaking generally of Latin America, Bosch said that "America is beautiful but cruel. The people suffer. The organization is implacable and closed. And nature is difficult to dominate. Man has to struggle in the altiplano at 4,000 meters of altitude, and he has to bear the suffocating heat of the Caribbean."

The United States, he called "a great elephant rushing among a nest of hens." He also felt that "communism would not take root in those Latin American countries that have had their

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social revolution, such as Mexico and Venezuela." He insisted too that communism would fail in the Dominican Republic because it requires "a production technique and a certain intellectual level in the directing group" that are absent in Santo Domingo. Brazil, on the other hand, will find it very difficult "to free itself from communism," according to Bosch.

Bosch said that he had come to Spain because he "wanted to work." He added that he "would be away from America for some time." His explanation was that "in America one cannot be a free man (because) North American propaganda has our people divided into two irreconcilable blocs, communists and anti-communists."

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